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no. 6

Head Quarters, Dist. of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona,

HOUSTON, FEBRUARY 23D. 1865.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6.

I. At a General Court Martial, convened at Galveston, Texas, by virtue of Special Orders, No. 7, Paragraph II, from these Head Quarters, of which Lieutenant-Colonel Ireland is President, was arraigned and tried Private ANTONE RICHERS, of Degé's Light Battery, upon the following charges and specifications, viz:

Charge 1st—DESERTION.

Specification:—In this, that the said Private A. Richers did, in the night of the 9th to the 10th of December, 1864, desert his company, stationed on Galveston Island, with the intention to make his way to the enemy's fleet blockading the harbor of Galveston. Early in the morning of the 10th an alarm was given by some negroes, stationed near the obstructions in the Bay, that some men were in distress in the channel, calling for help. Upon which C. H. Peters, of Co. "B," Engineer Troops; A. J. Jackson, of 1st Co., Engineer Troops, and J. W. Maris, of Co. "E," 2d Regiment, T. V. Infantry, got a boat to render assistance, if necessary. Mr. Peters took the boat to the place of disaster, where he found a boat which had capsized, and Private A. Richers, above named, and two others, clinging to it. He took A. Richers into the boat, intending to land him at the Central Wharf, to which, however, he objected, and was, therefore, compelled to land him at another point. After being landed he made Peters promise not to say any thing about it, and invited him to call at his camp, and he would make him a handsome present, acknowledging that he had left without the consent of his commanding officer. He further stated to Private A. J. Jackson, 1st Co., Engineer Troops, that he was dissatisfied with his Lieutenant, as also with his grub, but would, from this time on, be content, as he had been saved from drowning.

Charge 2d—Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.

Specification:—In this, that the said private A. Richers, above named, did, in the night of the 9th to 10th of December, 1864, steal a boat from one of the wharves at Galvestan city, not knowing whom it belonged to, and took it down the channel with the intention to desert to the enemy, blockading the harbor of Galveston, until arriving at the obstructions in the channel, the boat was capsized and lost. All this at or near the city of Galveston, on the night from the 9th to the 10th of December, 1864.

To all of which the accused pleaded *not guilty*.

FINDING AND SENTENCE OF THE COURT.

The Court, having maturely considered all the evidence adduced, find the accused,

Of Specification, 1st Charge,.....Guilty.
Of 1st Charge.....Guilty.
Of Specification, 2d Charge.....Guilty.
Of 2d Charge.....Guilty.

And the Court do therefore sentence the said Antone Richers, Degé's Battery, to be shot to death with musketry, at such time and place as the Maj. Gen. Commanding may direct.

II. The proceedings, finding and sentence of the Court in the foregoing case are hereby approved and confirmed, and the sentence will be carried into effect in the presence of such part of the troops on Galveston Island as Brig. Gen. Hawes shall direct, on Friday, the 3d day of March next.

III. The sentence of the General Court Martial in the case of Lieutenant MAX. MEISSNER, Co. "D," Timmons' Regiment of Texas Infantry, is remitted, except that portion reducing him to the ranks as a Private. Private Meissner will be released from arrest and conscripted in such company of his regiment as his commanding officer shall designate.

By Command of

Maj. Gen. J. G. WALKER,

W. A. SMITH,
A. A. Gen'l.

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